

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 7, 8, 11, 16, 19, 21, and 35, as shown in the following listing of claims, which will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. In order to further prosecution in a timely manner, previously withdrawn non-elected claims 5, 33, and 34 have been cancelled without prejudice to their pursuit in an appropriate continuation or divisional application.

Listing of claims:

1 (cancelled).

2 (previously presented). The method of claim 7, wherein the analyzing step further includes phenotyping the processed biological sample and cells therein.

3 (previously presented). The method of claim 7, wherein the preserving means comprises:

- a. a weak base;
- b. a chelating agent;
- c. an anionic surfactant or detergent.

4 (previously presented). The method of claim 7, wherein the upstream processing step further includes dissociating the cells of the biological sample.

5.-6. (cancelled)

7 (currently amended). A method of genetic analysis, wherein the method comprises:

- a. upstream processing of a biological sample to produce a suspension comprising cells comprising genetic material;
- b. applying the suspension to a first solid medium;
- c. contacting the cells on the first solid medium with a second solid medium, wherein the second solid medium ~~comprises~~is a dry solid medium comprising:
 - i. a matrix; and
 - ii. a composition sorbed to the matrix, the composition comprising preserving means for protecting genetic material from degradation;
- d. sorbing the genetic material to the second solid medium; and
- e. analyzing the genetic material.

8 (currently amended). A method of analyzing genetic material, wherein the method comprises:

- a. obtaining a biological sample;
- b. processing the biological sample to obtain one or more cells or virions comprising genetic material, wherein the processing step comprises:
 - i. dissociating cells in the biological sample to produce a suspension; and
 - ii. isolating a cell or virion on a first solid medium;
- c. applying the cell or virion isolated on the first solid medium to a second solid medium, wherein the second solid medium ~~comprises~~is a dry solid medium comprising a matrix having a composition sorbed thereto, wherein the composition comprises:
 - i. a weak base;
 - ii. a chelating agent; and
 - iii. an anionic surfactant or detergent;

- d. lysing the cell or virion and retaining the genetic material with the second solid medium;
- e. analyzing the genetic material.

9 (previously amended). The method of claim 7, wherein

- a. the biological sample comprises an organ, a tissue, or a multi-cellular organism or colony; and
- b. the processing step a further comprises dissociating cells in the biological sample.

10 (previously presented). The method of claim 7, wherein the genetic material comprises DNA or RNA.

11 (currently amended). A method of detecting and analyzing genetic material from a biological sample, wherein the method comprises:

- a. obtaining a biological sample comprising a cellular component having one or more cells comprising genetic material;
- b. isolating the cellular component, on a first solid medium, from non-cellular components in the sample;
- c. removing non-cellular components;
- d. contacting the cellular component with a second solid medium, wherein the second solid medium ~~comprises~~ is a dry solid medium comprising a matrix having a composition sorbed thereto, wherein the composition comprises:
 - i. a weak base;
 - ii. a chelating agent; and
 - iii. an anionic surfactant or detergent;

- e. lysing the one or more cells in the cellular component and retaining the genetic material with the second solid medium; and
- f. analyzing the genetic material.

12 (original). The method of claim 11, wherein the biological sample comprises blood, plasma, serum, mucus, urine, saliva, sweat, or semen.

13 (original). The method of claim 11, wherein the biological sample comprises a culture, a fluid sample, water, a food, a beverage, or a non-biological solid.

14 (original). The method of claim 11, wherein the genetic material comprises DNA or RNA.

15 (original). The method of claim 11, wherein the genetic material comprises genomic DNA or mRNA.

16 (currently amended). A method of detecting and analyzing genetic material from a biological sample from a mammal, wherein the method comprises:

- a. obtaining a biological sample comprising an organ or a tissue comprising cells comprising genetic material;
- b. dissociating the cells to produce a suspension comprising the cells and one or more non-cellular components;
- c. isolating the cells on a first solid medium;
- d. removing substantially all the non-cellular components;
- e. contacting the cells on the first solid medium with a second solid medium, wherein the second solid medium ~~comprises~~ comprises a dry solid medium comprising a matrix having a composition sorbed thereto, wherein the composition comprises:

- i. a weak base;
 - ii. a chelating agent; and
 - iii. an anionic surfactant or detergent;
- f. lysing the cells and retaining the genetic material with the second solid medium; and
- g. analyzing the genetic material.

17 (original). The method of claim 16, wherein the genetic material comprises mammalian DNA or RNA.

18 (original). The method of claim 16, wherein the genetic material comprises DNA or RNA from non-mammalian cells or from viruses.

19 (currently amended). A method of detecting and analyzing genetic material from a non-solid biological sample from a mammal, wherein the method comprises:

- a. obtaining a non-solid biological sample comprising a component of interest, wherein the component contains a cell, a virus, or a combination thereof and wherein the cell or the virus comprises genetic material;
- b. isolating the component of interest on a first solid medium and removing substantially all of the remaining components of the sample;
- c. contacting the isolated component of interest on the first solid medium with a second solid medium, wherein the second solid medium ~~comprises~~ is a dry solid medium comprising a matrix having a composition sorbed thereto, wherein the composition comprises:
 - i. a weak base;
 - ii. a chelating agent; and
 - iii. an anionic surfactant or detergent;

- d. releasing the genetic material from the component of interest and retaining the genetic material with the second solid medium;
- e. analyzing the genetic material.

20 (original). The method of claim 19, wherein the genetic material comprises DNA or RNA.

21 (currently amended). A method of isolating and analyzing genetic material, wherein the method comprises:

- a. obtaining a sample;
- b. processing the sample to produce a suspension comprising cells or virions comprising genetic material;
- c. isolating the cells or virions on a first solid medium and removing substantially all of the remaining components of the sample;
- d. contacting the cells or virions on the first solid medium with a second solid medium, wherein the second solid medium ~~comprises~~is a dry solid medium comprising a matrix having a composition sorbed thereto, wherein the composition comprises:
 - i. a weak base;
 - ii. a chelating agent; and
 - iii. an anionic surfactant or detergent;
- e. lysing the cells or virions and retaining the genetic material with the second solid medium; and
- f. analyzing the genetic material.

22 (original). The method of claim 21, wherein the sample comprises one of the following: an organism, an organ, a tissue, blood, plasma, serum, mucus, urine, saliva, sweat, or semen.

23 (original). The method of claim 21, wherein the sample comprises a culture, a fluid sample, water, a food, a beverage, or a non-biological solid.

24 (original). The method of claim 21, wherein the analysis of genetic material includes genotyping.

25 (original). The method of claim 21, further comprising:

- g. detecting contamination of the sample.

26 (original). The method of claim 21, wherein the genetic material comprises DNA or RNA.

27 (original). The method of claim 21, wherein the genetic material comprises genomic DNA or mRNA.

28-34 (cancelled).

35 (currently amended). A method of detecting and analyzing genetic material from a biological sample, wherein the method comprises:

- a. obtaining a biological sample;
- b. processing the biological sample to produce a suspension of one or more cells or virions comprising genetic material and one or more non-cellular or non-viral components;

- c. providing an apparatus comprising:
 - i. a chamber for containing a fluid including a suspension of cells or virions therein, the chamber comprising:
 - an opening therethrough; and
 - a first solid medium removably disposed over the opening;
 - ii. vacuum means for drawing the fluid from the chamber and through the first solid medium and depositing the cells or virions on the first solid medium;
 - iii. a second solid medium wherein the second solid medium ~~comprises~~ is a dry solid medium comprising:
 - a matrix; and
 - a composition sorbed to the matrix, the composition comprising preserving means for protecting the genetic material from degradation;
- d. placing a fluid comprising the suspension in the chamber;
- e. using the vacuum means to draw the fluid from the chamber and through the first solid medium and to deposit the cells or virions on the first solid medium and to remove substantially all of the non-cellular and non-viral components;
- f. contacting the cells or virions on the first solid medium with the second solid medium;
- g. releasing the genetic material from the cells or virions and retaining the genetic material with the second solid medium; and
- h. analyzing the genetic material.

36 (previously presented). The method of claim 35, wherein the preserving means comprises an anionic surfactant or detergent.

37 (previously presented). The method of claim 36, wherein the preserving means further comprises:

- a. a weak base; and
- b. a chelating agent.

38 (previously presented). The method of claim 35, wherein the biological sample comprises blood, plasma, serum, mucus, urine, saliva, sweat, or semen.

39 (previously presented). The method of claim 35, wherein the biological sample comprises a culture, a fluid sample, water, a food, a beverage, or a non-biological solid.

40 (previously presented). The method of claim 35, wherein the analysis of genetic material includes genotyping.

41 (previously presented). The method of claim 35, further comprising:

- i. detecting contamination of the sample.

42 (previously presented). The method of claim 35, wherein the genetic material comprises DNA or RNA.

43 (previously presented). The method of claim 35, wherein the genetic material comprises genomic DNA or mRNA.